THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 20TH DECEMBER.

GENERAL Officers commanding Brigades in Burmah have been ordered "to organise and carry out a regular system of patrols from each post in their command. Patrols are to visit all villages within a radius of five or six, miles; and, where accommodation may exist, these patrols may be extended over two days. Arrangements are to be made by posts within reasonable distance of each other, for their patrols to occasionally meet. Interpreters will accompany patrols, and the villagers will be encouraged to report the state of the neighbourhood. The names of all villages patrolled, and the results of such visits, are to be noted in post diaries for the information of Brigadiers-General; and Civil Officers should be kept acquainted with any information acquired through such patrolling." It is unfortunately not so much the information that is always wanting, as the means to act upon it. The information at hand would have sufficed for some purposes, one would be inclined to think; but somehow or other the consummation devoutly wished for is as far from being attained as ever. The fact is that Burma has its jungles, rivers and ravines as Afganisthan its mountains and defiles, and they, 'docoits' as they are, know what best use to put them to. If the people were half as well-affected towards British advent as they are studiously represented to be, we should probably have heard less and at greater intervals of these "dacoities." The patrolling party, if weak in number will not always be received as cordially by the villagers as the authorities fondly anticipate and let them look to it.

"THE entire Indian economical collection in the Colonial and Indian Exhibition will, it is understood, be handed over to the Imperial Institute. The Prince of Wales has likewise asked the Indian Government to arrange for the beautiful carved screens and woodwork which formed such a remarkable feature of the Indian Court to remain for transfer to the Institute. Nearly the whole of the objects sent to the Exhibition for sale have been disposed of, and at prices which are regarded as satisfactory. There are some few exhibits still for sale, and, in order to get rid of them rapidly, Viscount Cross, the Secretary of State for India, has resorted to the astute expedient of allowing the appointment of a number of pretty girls of the barmaid type to wait upon customers who wish to make any purchases in the Exhibition building." A knowing man of his age, is he, is the Viscount.

"THE Council of Regency at Gwalior is about to take important measures for developing the resources of the State. After protracted consideration, it has decided upon the immediate construction of several highly-important metalled roads, both as direct feeders to railways and as opening out the more important grain-producing districts. The first of these is not less than 150 miles in length, and striking the Sindhia railway at Morena, half-way between Dholpur and Gwalior, it passes through Sabalgarh and runs parallel to the Chambal River, to the important grain centre of Sheopur. The country is absolutely without communications at present, and it is stated that grain to the value of 17 lahks of rupees is stored in the Town of Sheopur alone, the accumulations of many past years. It is further proposed east of the railway line to connect the towns of Amba and Bhind with the railway station at Hetampur. In Malwa, an extremely important road has been decided upon, continuing the Ujjain and Agar road to the north, as far as the borders of the Jhalra Patan State. This is a rich wheat country, and during the rains is quite inaccessible. In this road, Maharaja Holkar will have to co-operate, as some miles of it run through Indore territory. The road, is about 50 miles in length. Two other roads are proposed, from Agar to Saranpur and from Shahjahanpur to Shujalpar, respectively 33 and 28 miles; and another direct feeder to the Rajputana Railway will be the road, 18 miles in length, from Ranija to the Kachrod station. Many other important roads are under consideration."

ON the question of teaching Art in India, the *Evening Standard* says:—What mischievous jargon is this which Lord Dufferin proclaims to the students in the Bombay School of Art? "His Excellency expressed his strong conviction of the importance of spreading art education among the people of India." When this sort of things is addressed to English children or English adults it does no harm, and may possibly do good; as our system goes, men in authority must say something upon any matter that turns up, whether they know anything or not. But to tell the people of India, in an age when we have just reached such an elementary acquaintance with art as to recognise them as our masters, that they should go to school again, is a most disastrous utterance. For they will not laugh nor rage, but simply will take the advice of the Sircar—such as hear of it—and lay down rules for the artisan. What is the purpose of our "art education" for those who understand its meaning?—to raise our dull and tasteless practice to the level, if it may be, which India attained centuries ago; to effect, by rule and dogma, those results which instinct taught her children to seek and patient skill to achieve. 'The Indian workmen,' wrote our highest authority, 'from the humblest potter to the most cunning embroiderer in blue and purple and scarlet, is not the less a true artist;'—Dr. Birdwood might have gone very much further. These are the people whom we are to teach! Under the enlightened influence of the Maharaja of Kashmir we have already trained a portion of them indeed; and the exquisite arts of that province, as the same gentleman declares, have been 'ruined by the improvement.'" Ardent advocates of so-called Technical Education will, perhaps, have the patience and good sense to pause over these sensible remarks.

TUESDAY, 21ST DECEMBER.

EVERY week sees something new invented in the killing line. A new mortar has been tried at Chavignon in France, carrying a 220lb. shell; which is exploded by a new chemical-composition. This shell, which is intended for high angle fire, is terminated with an elongated and very strong steel point which penetrates masonry just as a wedge is driven into a beam. Several of these were fired at Fort Malmaison at 3250 yards, and the results are said to have been remarkable. Plates of steel nearly 8 inches thick were pierced, and solid walls demolished by a few shots.

A COMPANY is being started in London with the title of the "Eastern Mysore Gold Mining Company," under the auspices of Sir William Cunningham, of the Indian Gold Mines Co. Better luck, we hope for this, than that of the existing companies.

WE are informed that at a Monthly Council of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, Babu Sashi Bhuson Biswas, Editor of the *Bharut Sramajeebi*, was enrolled as a member of the Society. The *Sramajeebi* of late has been doing practical good work.

BABU Sarat Chunder Dass, the celebrated traveller and Tibetan scholar, has received a silver medal from the Viceroy. Will this compensate for the loss he sustained at Mr. Macaulay's hands for his sensible opposition to the last Thibet Mission?

A PATENT has been issued, according to information from Washington, to George Westinghouse, junior, of Pittsburg, Pennsilvania, inventor of the Westinghouse air brake, for a new system of distributing electricity to be used in lighting and for other purposes, which, it is said, will greatly cheapen the electric light and render it a more dangerous rival of of illuminating has than it has ever yet become. The new invention will, it is alleged, effect a saving of about 95 per cent. in the distributing main wire as compared with the Edison "three-wire system." In tests of the invention a single main circuit of wire less than one-forth of an inch diameter carried the current for 850 16-candle-power incandescent lights, all situated at a distance of three miles from the dynamo. The inventor claims that to light this number of lamps at an equal distance the Edison system would require from 90 to 100 wires of the same size.

THE Countess of Dufferin's article on the Medical Women's Fund has been reprinted from the *Asiatic Quarterly Review*, and is being sold at the price of half a rupee, for the profit of the fund.

BURMAH has been formally divided into four Commissionerships—the Northern, with head-quarters at Bhamo; the Central, including the districts about Mandalay; the Southern from Myingyan down to the old frontier on either side of the Irrawady; and the Eastern, which takes in the districts of the Sittang Valley. Practically the arrangement is one that has been in force for some time.

DURING the seven months from the 1st April to the 31st October last, the imports into India amounted in value to Rs. 33,02,97,814, as compared with Rs. 28,76,98,980 in the corresponding period of the previous year. The exports during the same period amounted to Rs. 47,28,64,764, as compared with Rs. 42,75,18,959 in the corresponding period of the previous year. The increase in the imports is mainly under the heads of yarns and textile fabrics, articles of food and drink, oils, and machinery and mill work. The increase in the exports is principally due to larger exports of yarn and textile fabrics, raw materials and unmanufactured articles, and chemicals, drugs, medicines and narcotics and dyeing and tanning materials.

WEDNESDAY, 22DN DECEMBER.

COMMENTING on the release of forgerer Gibbons, our Madras contemporary of the *Indian Champion* exclaims:—"But if Gibbons has been released, that noble lady Rai Kissoree had to undergo the full term of her imprisonment. She was sent to prison for having committed forgery. Every body knows that Hindu ladies of high position have no knowledge of the ways of the outside world, and she was only an unconscious instrument in the hands of her advisers. And she was for this sent to prison! Of course the whole Indian community was convulsed, and the Government was moved. But the Government then did not move, nor did the gallant and chivalrous Englishmen of India." And Bengal will never forget how her best and noblest cried themselves hoarse for a reprieve of the unfortunate lad Tincowry Pal, only to be snubbed by a *righteous* Government.

THE following extract from a letter sent by the distinguished philosopher and socialogist, Mr. Herbert Spencer, to a much-persecuted and imprisoned opponent of vaccinatio will be read with interest:—"I greatly regret to hear of the misfortunes you have suffered in consequence of your determined opposition to the tyranny of the vaccination Acts. Remembering what I do you, I should quite have expected that you would be one of the few having the courage and firmness required to oppose such unjustifiable interference to the utmost. I wish I had known some time since that the persecution had in any case been carried so far as you describe, as I might have made use of the fact; it would have served further to enforce the parallel between this medical popery which men think so defensible, and the religious popery which they think so indefensible."

THE Duke of Connaught has been formally gazetted to the Bombay Council and Sir Charles Arbuthnot and Mr. Justice Hutchins to the Council of Madras.

IT is understood that among the questions discussed during the recent visit of the Viceroy to Hyderabad, was that of the reduction at an early date of the number of the Nizam's Irregular troops, but it has not yet transpired what decision was arrived at. Stings may not be undisguised among the fairest of flowers.

WITH a view to encourage the study of the Chinese language among officers of the Burma Commission, the Governor General in Council is pleased to notify, that any officer of the Commission who shall pass an examination in the Chinese language equivalent to the Higher Standard Examination, which members of the Commission are required to pass in Burmese, shall be entitled to a reward of Rs. 2,000. The Governor-General in Council is also pleased to notify that any officer who, by passing an elementary examination in Chinese, the standard of which shall be fixed by the Chief Commissioner of Burma, evinces thereby his intention to become a candidate for the reward of Rs. 2,000, shall on application, be granted special leave on full pay at Bhamo, or in China for six months for the purpose of

studying the Chinese language. The leave will be granted on the distinct understanding that it is to be spent either at Bhamo or in China, and will count as duty qualifying for privilege leave, provided that the examination for which it is granted is successfully passed. An officer shall be eligible for such leave only once. The dialect in which the examination of a candidate for the above-named reward shall be first conducted will be that spoken by the Chinese across the Bhamo frontier. After passing in that dialect, an officer will be permitted to gain a further reward of Rs. 2,000 by qualifying by the same standard in one or two other principal dialects to be selected by the Chief Commissioner of Burma, but under no circumstances will he be able to obtain a reward for proficiency in a second dialect till he has obtained one for his knowledge of the Bhamo frontier dialect. The above rules will be subject to reconsideration after three years." The growing complications with China must have dictated the step and a wise step it is unquestionably.

THE Emperor William of Germany celebrates, on January 1st next, the eightieth anniversary of his entry into the German Army. He has accordingly authorised a committee to gather funds for some presentation to the Teutonic soldiery to mark the day.

SIR Charles Dilke has been interviewd by the Paris correspondent of the *Standard*. He denied having told the *Figaro* interviewer that the Crawford case would be re-opened immediately. He said his friends had collected a large quantity of fresh evidence for submission. For decency's sake drop the curtain!

THURSDAY, 23RD DECEMBER.

DR. Leitner, when last heard of, was in Hyderabad, Deccan. He contemplates, it is said, the creation of a Nizam's University, on the lines, no doubt, of the Punjab institution, as he himself meant it to be. It takes three to make a college; but Dr. Lietner is quite equal to creating a University, *stans pede in uno*. The spirit of enterprise is truly marvellous in the learned doctor.

THE Chinaman's devotion to his pigtail has latley been curiously illustrated. Two Chinese, sentenced to durance vile in an American penitentiary, were duly shaved on their entrance, and soon became insane, so say the officials, through grief at the loss of their precious *queues*. So a third Chinese prisoner, on entering, was allowed to retain his pigtail. Potent indeed is the power of time-honored custom. Our Brahman Pundits and devout Hindoos, who wear the holy *Sikha* would die of horror and disgust if there was the slightest effort to tamper with it.

ACCORDING to a Calcutta paper, the Agent of the Bank of Bengal does not think that a branch at Mandalay would succeed on the circumscribed lines laid down by Government. Looking to the small export trade of Mandalay, he is in doubt whether the town will ever become such an important place of business as either Myingyan or Pakoko. The Agent left Mandalay on the 5th instant for Bhamo: and will report on the trading prospects of that place.

THE *Indo-European Correspondence* thinks that "it may be amusing to know that so weak was Elizabeth's belief in the English heresy, and so little her horror at the old religion of the country, that she made not the slightest difficulty in dispensing (by her supreme power as head of the Church and for a good sum of money) from attendance at the new heretical service all Catholics who were able to pay for such a favour. It is reckoned by Mr. Andrews (Hist. of Govt. Brit. vol. ii.) that this griping Jezabel cleared about £100,000 a year by the granting of these Protestant indulgences." It is lucky that the writer did not live in the 'griping Jezabel's' time, or the number of those who were made to feel the kindly touch of the faggot would have been augmented by one.

JUDGING from the revenue derived by Government from the working of the East Indian Railway under the contract system and the satisfaction with which the undertaking is worked in contrast with the other local State Railway which is under the management of Government officials, the State has to be congratulated on its determination to leave things as they were when the Railway was taken over by purchase. From 1880 to 1885, the Government has received as its share of profit nearly 4¾ crores of rupees.

A SCHEME for the introduction of military ballooning into India is under consideration, and Lieutenant J. R. Macdonald, R.E., has been sent to Roorkee for the purpose of preparing and submitting details.

THE number of the Queen's grandchildren is 30. The Prince of Wales has five living children; the Princess Royal has six; the late Princess Alice left five; the late Duke of Albany had two; the Duke of Edinburgh has five; Princess Christian four; the Duke of Connaught two; and Princess Beatrice one.

THERE is a talk of Russia endeavouring to raise another loan, but she will get no money in England; and notwithstanding all the wooing of the French Government, the Paris Bourse will be equally as stony-hearted. Even the Germans are becoming alarmed, at the financial condition of Russia, and well they may if the statements of the *German Gazette* are true that the debt of Russia now amounts to 5,600,000,000 roubles, and the yearly interest has risen within ten years from 104.000,000 to 261,000,000 roubles. Russia herself is not probably much alarmed, as this abnormal condition of the Exchequer is supposed to be an unquestionable index of the efficiency of the army and the navy, because she never contracts loans like her neighbours for luxuries and gewgaws.

THE Chinese Government, with a view to the further expansion of Chinese trade, have fitted out a surveying expedition for the Amoor, preparatory to the establishment of a Chinese Steam Navigation Company on that river.

FRIDAY, 24TH DECEMBER.

IT is notified for public information, that the West Deccan Railway is now open for traffic between Poona and Koregaon, a distance of 83¼ miles. The nearest station of this line to Satara, is designated "Satara Road," and is about 10 miles from the post office at Satara.

IN unpacking her effects, on arrival at Puna, the Duchess of Connaught discovered a serious loss of jewellery, of a necklace, pin and tiara, all diamonds, valued at Rs. 10,000. These were kept in a case of four trays. The three top trays, containing costly jewellery, were untouched, the bottom tray only being stolen. It is believed the jewellery must have been stolen by a servant before leaving Rawul Pindi.

THE *Indian Mirror* Office has been removed from No. 2, British Indian Street to No. 74, Dhurrumtollah Street.

THE High Court, both in its Appellate and Original Jurisdiction, closed for the Christmas and New Year's Holidays on Wednesday, the 22nd December 1886. The Court re-opens on Tuesday, the 4th January. The members of the Board of Revenue will take a good long holiday, as no cases will be taken by them from 22nd December to 2nd January.

IT is anticipated that a trade in wheat between India and Australia will be soon opened.

NATIVE Burmans are admitted as members of the Rangoon Volunteer Corps. Are the "natives" of India—specially the educated classes—a more dangerous lot than the kith and kin of the docile dacoits of Burma. The united prayer of educated India to be permitted to serve its sovereign and country as humble volunteers has gone for nothing and the Government in its supreme wisdom and pleasure has not even thought it worth its while to vouchsafe a formal reply of aye or nay.

THE annual dinner of Elphinstonians of Bombay was held under the presidency of Mr. Dadabhai Nowroji. The gathering numbered nearly a hundred and fifty persons, and included many leading members of society. Similar dinners were arranged to take place the same evening in London, Calcutta, Kurrachi, Nagpore, Surat and other places.

THE Madras Government has called upon the local Accountant General to prepare a statement for submission to the India Office, showing the number of persons who have accompanied the Government to the hills during the past five years, and showing also in detail the cost of the migration. The Hills emigration will never be stopped to the end of the age. But it is worth while knowing what we pay for it.

THE result of the balloting for the Chairmanship of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce the other day, was that the Hon'ble Mr. F. Forbes Adam was re-elected for the fourth time. He belongs to the firm of Graham & Co. He is a friend of the people of India.

THE *Pioneer* characteristically says:—"The unanimous opinion of the witnesses before the Public Service Commission, so far, is hostile to the Statutory Civil Service in its present form. The European witnesses, as a rule, suggest its abolition; the Natives, its extension: but both are agreed that it fails to work. As might have been expected, also, the opinion of Lahore inclines to reserving for the Punjab the appointments that are of the Punjab. The Mussulman of Northern India sees more of the official Bengali every year; and the more he sees the less he loves him. It is significant even that, in deprecating the superiority of Europeans, one Punjabi said that his countrymen would not prefer a European official to a Native of Madras or Bombay. He could not have added "or Bengal," if he had been paid for it." The game, however, won't do we are sure.

ACCORDING to the *Englishman*, the Finance Committee held its last meeting on Monday last. The Committee is now dissolved, and any work that yet remains to be done will be finished by officials selected for the purpose, under the direction of Mr. Elliot. The reductions which the Committee have finally agreed to recommend are very considerable. It is to be hoped that the Committee's Note on the Simla allowances will be published without delay. There can be no doubt that the sincerity of the Government in regard to the reduction of expenditure will be judged by the economies effected under this head, and the sooner the vervict of the Committee in the matter is known, the better it will be for all concerned." Whatever the recommendation may be, full effect to it will never be given to them.

SATURDAY, 25TH DECEMBER.

SAYS a contemporary:—The House of Churchill is now almost certain to take the lead in affairs in the House of Lords as well as in the House of Commons. So a well informed correspondent writes to us from London. Lord Salisbury's health is something more than precarious. It is doubtful whether the Premier can continue to hold office for six months longer. He is anxious to retire from the wearying round of official life. The situation is fully recognised. There is no superabundance of talent amongst the Conservative leaders, and to provide for contingencies the Duke of Marlborough will be brought to the front. His Grace is still, as formerly, credited with greater intellectual force and energy than his brother. To rehabilitate him in the public estimation a personage of high position has brought about a reconciliation between the Duke and the lady from whom he was divorced. The re-marriage will shortly take place, and then his Grace will take the position of leader of the House of Lords when vacated by Lord Salisbury. We are bidden to expect this unexpected departure in the Conservative interests within a very measurable distance of time." How soon however, things, change. Lord Randolph Churchill has resigned already.

A CURIOUS innovation in the way of Jail industries has recently been made by Dr. Leithbridge, the Inspector General of Prisons in Bengal. It is bee-keeping, and the result so far, has been a great success. Pure, clear honey is being manufactured and sold in large quantities at the Darjeeling Jail Depot, at a charge of Rs. 1-8 per quart bottle. The market price of Sunderbun honey varies from twelve annas to one rupee per seer, but it is seldom found pure in the market.

A SAD military tragedy is related by the Lucknow correspondent of an up-country paper. At the Depot at Ranikhet some privates owed a grudge or ill-feeling towards a sergeant of the 100th Regiment, now stationed at Fyzabad, and they decided who should "do" for the sergeant by dealing out a pack of cards, and to whomsoever the ace of spades was dealt he must become the sergeant's executioner. The ace of spades was dealt to a young private of the Liecestershire Regiment, at present stationed at Lucknow, and this young fellow took up his rifle and deliberately shot the sergeant dead. The murderer has been sentenced to death.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to the *Times*:—"There is at the present moment a most wonderful and unique gem to be seen in Hatten-garden. For the last twelve months lapidaries have been employed busily cutting a diamond which far exceeds in weight the famous Kohi-Noor, and is certainly the largest and purest in the world. It was discovered in South Africa in 1884 and weighed originally upwards of 400 carats. This has been reduced by the process of cutting to 180 carats, one fragment of the jewel being bought by the King of Portugal for £8,000. The Rajah of Mattan's jewel, the largest known in the world, weighed 367 carats and the Mogul diamond 279 carats in their rough state, so the South African gem easily holds the first place. Such a treasure should not be allowed to pass out of the kingdom and should have its place in our regalia. Might it not be a most fit and appropriate gift to offer our Queen-Empress on the occasion of her jubilee? Here, surely, is a chance for the ladies of the United Kingdom, the Colonies, and India, to subscribe and buy it for Her Majesty, who for such an unprecedented time has been herself such an ornament to England as Queen and mother. It would be a pity if some foreigner, perhaps some Chinese or Japanese potentate, should obtain possession of a gem which has seen the light at a most opportune time." Couldn't the money be more usefully employed?

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The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1886.

THE CRISIS.

THE last general election did not result in the formation of a strong, stayable Government. Numerically strong as the Conservatives came out to be, they could not hold office against the Liberals and the Irish party united, and the only means left to them to surmount the difficulty was by creating a breach in the ranks of their opponents. This they did. The Liberal party was broken up by the defection of Lord Hartington, Mr. Chamberlain, and Mr. Goschen with their followers, and Mr. Gladstone even with the Irish party was reduced to a minority. Those who left him, however, were not ready to coalesce altogether with the Conservatives; they formed a separate party under the name of Unionists, and pledged themselves to support the Government in Irish matters, but retained their Liberal principles in regard to other questions. Practically, this was a disintegration; it created a new party, standing as a menace to Mr. Gladstone on the one side and the Ministry on the other, but bringing substantial strength to none. Such a state of things could not last long, and the crisis has appeared even before the time we had expected. Circumstances have arisen for Lord Randolph Churchill to resign his place in the Ministry and without him and his followers, the Ministry can not hold on. The real cause of the resignation has not yet been fully disclosed to the public. One version is that his refusal to embody in his Budget the Army and Admiralty Estimates which he regards as excessive but which his colleagues insist upon, is the cause. Another is, that his Lordship is dissatisfied with the legislative programme of the Cabinet for the next session. A third is a difference about the Local Self-Government question. But whatever it is, the effect of the defection is the same—it cripples the Cabinet in a manner so as to threaten its existence. The *Times*, in discussing the matter, considers Lord Randolph's step as ill-timed and imprudent, and the *Standard* vehemently rebukes his Lordship for his act at a time when a crisis exists in Ireland and the continent. His Lordship's imperious haughtiness is also said to have completely estranged his colleagues from him, and that probably lies at the bottom of this unexpected affair. If so, and it is most likely so, there is no probability of his withdrawing his resignation, and Lord Salisbury must find some one else to fill the post of Leader of the House of Commons, and in the present state of his party, this is extremely difficult to obtain. The rumour is that he has failed to find any, and as a last resource has offered the Marquis of Hartington the choice of either the Premiership or a seat in the Cabinet in order that he may be the leader of the House of Commons. If it be true that Lord Salisbury is willing to give up the Premiership, it is easy to see how grave is the crisis. His resignation of the Premiership would be tantamount to the breaking up of the Conservative Cabinet, unless Lord Hartington should openly abjure his Liberalism and his party. Doubtless he is highly influential, and has a large following; but he can scarcely change his caste and retain either his influence or his followers. The most important factor in his party is Mr. Chamberlain, and he cannot, on any account, be expected to embrace Conservatism; it would amount to a political suicide if he did so; and without him Lord Hartington will find office by no means a bed of roses for him, even if he could reconcile himself to a change of party, which, considering his temper and his past professions, he can scarcely do. The Marquis of Salisbury, it is said, is in indifferent health, and the cares of office sit very heavy on him. It would, therefore, be a relief to him, if he could gracefully retire; but such is not the case with Lord Hartington. Matters have been complicated further by Mr. Chamberlain who, speaking at Birmingham has declared that Lord Randloph Churchill's presence in the Conservative Cabinet was a guarantee against reaction; and that his lordship's resignation testifies the triumph achieved over Conservative influence, and that the Liberals were agreed in every thing, except upon the immediate necessity of granting Home Rule to Ireland; urging earnestly under the circumstances that an honest attempt should be made to effect a reunion of the Liberal party. This is an open declaration of war, and bearing in mind the Liberal leaning of Lord Randolph and the utter uncertainty of the course he may adopt at any critical moment, we must be prepared for a readjustment of parties and Ministry at an early date. In fact, the main factor in the matter is Mr Gladstone. If for the sake of his party, he could be got over again to a temporary postponement of Home Rule and to make his Irish following submit to it as a measure of expediency, the immediate restoration of the Liberals to power, would be a certainty. But will the Grand Old Man agree?

PROTECTED INDIAN PRINCES.

LORD DUFFERIN is of opinion that the position of protected Indian Princes is the most enviable in the world. In proposing the health of the Nizam at the State banquet given by His Highness his lordship said: "Indeed, I do not know in the world a more enviable position than that of our Indian Princes, enjoying, as they do, under the aegis of the British Imperium, an absolute immunity from those anxieties by which the chiefs of European States are perpetually exercised, namely, the danger of invasion from without and the fear of revolution from within. They are able to give their whole time and attention to the most interesting and the noblest task which can occupy the human mind—the advancement of their State along the road of modern progress, and the improvement of the material welfare and happiness of the millions entrusted to their charge. Such a field as this is amply sufficient to satisfy the widest ambition or the most soaring aspirations that ever entered the heart of man; and not only so, but they have the additional satisfaction of knowing that Her Majesty and Her Majesty's Government have but one desire, and that is to extend to them, on all occasions, their heartiest sympathy and assistance, to do every thing in their power to augment their prestige, to support their authority, and to enhance their personal consideration. In return, we ask them for nothing, but that they should administer their states wisely and beneficently, in accordance with their lights and the local requirements of their situations. For long years of a traditional and unswerving loyalty exhibited through many generations on their part renders even the mention of such a requirement as fidelity to their sovereign and Emprsss unnecessary upon ourselves."

Of the devoted loyalty and unswerving fidelity of the Indian Princes to their beloved and Gracious Sovereign, there can be no manner of doubt. They are fully sensible of the advantages which they enjoy under British rule. They know very well that under the strong arm of their suzerain, they are protected from the danger of invasion from without, and the fear of revolution from within. But for the presence of the English, the Indian Princes would be constantly fighting with one another, and their best energies would have to be devoted to the task of keeping their turbulent and unruly subjects in check. We have always maintained the view that the English had done nothing in India beyond the establishment of *Pax Britanica* from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin, that achievement alone would have fully justified their presence in the country. But we must not forget that the Indian Princes, belong to martial races, and that before the establishment of English rule their military spirit found ample field for play. Under the existing state of things, their warlike instincts have been entirely suppressed. This result is not particularly agreeable to them. It is true that the task of governing their States is amply sufficient to keep them fully employed. But then the Rajput, the Sikh and the Mahratta Chiefs cannot be expected to be entirely satisfied with a state of things which has absolutely deprived them of all chances of achieving military glory. They do not now want to fight with one another. They cannot, however, understand why they should not be allowed to participate in the defence of the Empire, which has done so much for them. The armies of the Native States consist of nearly 300,000 men. These are, for the most part, useless for fighting purposes. Why should not these men be properly trained so as to be fitted to take the field along with our regular army in case of need? The feudatory chiefs will be only too ready to co-operate with the paramount Power in the attainment of this object. Three hundred thousand men properly drilled and disciplined, would make a most valuable and at the same time an inexpensive addition to the fighting strength of the Empire. At the same time, such an arrangement would gratify the legitimate military ambition of the Indian Princes. The subject is deserving of the most careful and attentive consideration which, we hope, it will receive at the hands of Lord Dufferin's Government in connection with the question of strengthening the defences of the Empire in view of the approach of Russia towards our North-Western frontier.

Nor are Indian Princes, more satisfied as regards their condition at peace time. In referring to it Lord Dufferin, we regret to say, conveniently ignored or overlooked the fact that they are entirely at the mercy of the Foreign Office, or, in other words, of the political officers who represent it at their courts. The legitimate functions of Residents and Political Agents are to watch and advise; but it is notorious that in most cases, they go far beyond that, and take to domineering and dictating. In many instances, the relations existing between the feudatory chief and the representative of the paramount Power accredited to his court are unsatisfactory in the extreme. This fact is too well known to require anything more than mere mention. When a Native Chief has the misfortune to incur the displeasure of the Resident at his Court, he is reduced to a very miserable position indeed. The Foreign Office invariably supports its agents, whose proceedings, however high-handed and indiscreet, are approved. The poor chief concerned has no chance of obtaining a hearing against officers of the Political Department. If he fails in ingratiating himself into the good graces of the Resident of his Court, or of his favorite hangers on, (*pace* Jodhpur) he is ruined. On the other hand, if he succeeds in doing this, he may do whatever he likes with perfect impunity, There is no independent tribunal to which he can refer his disputes with the paramount Power for decision. The veriest pick-pocket in the British territory cannot be condemned without a trial. Even the murderers of Chief Justice Norman and Lord Mayo, who were caught red-handed in the act, were given an opportunity of proving their innocence. But the Nawab of Tonk who was charged with having killed one of his Sirdars was deprived of his *guddi* without a trial. The feudatory chiefs are firmly convinced that they have no hopes of obtaining justice from the Political Agent, as the reports of the British Resident against them would be taken for gospel truth. So long as this state of things exists, the position of Indian protected princes cannot be considered enviable. Sir John Malcolm, in speaking of the relations of British Resident with the feudatory chiefs, wrote:—"Though the check must be efficient, it should be almost unseen. The effect ought to be produced more by the impression than the exercise of superior power. Our principal object must be to elevate the authorities to whom we leave the administration of their respective territories. We must, in all cases of interference, bring them forward to their own subjects as the prominent objects of respect and obedience. So far from the Agent attracting notice to himself, he should purposely repel it that it may be given to the quarter where it is wanted, and to which it belongs." Again:—"The native Government must be courted and encouraged to good conduct, and the earnest endeavour of the British Agent must be to give their rulers a pride in their administration." As matters now stand, the attitude of the Resident towards the Chief to whose Court he is accredited, very often tends to

lower the latter in the estimation of his subjects. In many states, the people have come to find that the British Agent is the *de facto* ruler, and that the Chief, is merely "a pensioner in his own state." Lord Dufferin would have us believe, that such a position is the most enviable in the world.

MR. DADABHAI NOWROJI ON THE PUBLIC SERVICES.

MR. DADABHAI NOWROJI has written a most important and opportune note on the Indian services. It is written in his usual clear, practical, business-like way devoid unnecessary rhetoric and exhortation. Mr. Nowroji has waded through voluminous parliamentary reports and other old official papers, and quoted *seriatim* the opinions and assurances of great English public men from 1833 and downwards bearing on the important question of larger admission of Indians to the public services of their country.He draws no conclusion, points out no inference,and hazards no opinion, but simply states his facts and recites the promises of the Crown and Parliament with clearness and force,and leaves his readers to draw their own conclusion.The appeal thus is far stronger than it would have been if addressed to the feelings and sentiments of his readers. We doubt not that both in the deliberations of the National Congress and of the Publice Service Commission Mr. Nowroji's note will be of immense use. So far back as 1833, it was declared "that no Native of the said territories nor any natural born subject of His Majesty, resident therein, shall, by reason of his religion, place of birth, descent,color or any of them, be disabled from holding any place, office or employment under the said Company." And the pledge was repeated most solemnly in the Queen's proclamation of 1858, which says :—

"We hold ourselves bound to the Natives of our Indian territories by the same obligations of duty which bind us to all our other subjects ; and those obligations, by the blessing of Almighty God, we shall faithfully and conscientiously fulfil.

And it is our further will that, so far as may our subjects of whatever race or creed be freely and impartially admitted to office in our service, the duties of which they may be qualified by their education, ability and integrity duly to discharge.

In their prosperity will be our strength, in their contentment, our security, and in their gratitude our best reward. And may the God of all power grant to us and to those in authority under us strength to carry out these our wishes for the good of our people."

The pledge remains yet unredeemed,and our responsible rulers,at any rate some of them, poohpooh the idea of our insisting upon its strict fulfilment, as they "were mere conventional phrases and expressions." We refuse to believe them, however ; we are far too loyal and devoted to question the good faith of the proclamation of our gracious and beloved sovereign. As Mr. Nowroji asks, "the question now to be considered is, whether those gracious and solemn promises of 1833 and 1858 were made with the honest intention of being faithfully fulfilled or not ? I do not think, that any person, acquainted with the English character, traditions, and history, will, for a moment, hesitate to say that there was no honest intention. My own conviction is now deeper than ever, that the British People and Parliament do mean to act justly by us, and to fulfil the gracious words which they have given to India before God and the world, by the mouth of our August Sovereign and by an Act of Parliament. Let us, therefore, respectfully and clearly place before the Commission our views as to how all the departments of the Civil Service, in both superior and subordinate divisions,should be hereafter recruited, and that as far as necessary, Parliament be solicited to give their legislative sanction thereto."

THE LICENSE TAX IN BENGAL.

THE Lieutenant-Governor has recorded his last minute on the administration of License Tax, that Tax having been recently replaced by a still obnoxious impost, namely the Income Tax. In reviewing the Board of Revenue's report on the administration of the tax for 1885-86, the Bengal Government has availed itself of the opportunity to preach its funeral sermon on it. The License tax in its recent form was the outcome of Sir John Strachey's scheme of famine finance. This scheme proposed to improve the financial position of the Empire to the extent of two crores of rupees a year, of which 50 lakhs were to be regarded as a normal working balance while 150 lakhs were to be devoted to famine insurance, being expended either on actual relief, on reduction of debt, or on the construction of remunerative works calculated to prevent or mitigate the severity of the famine. Part of this sum it was proposed to provide by new taxation (*i. e.*, by the license tax), the remainder being obtained by throwing additional charges on the Provincial Governments. The year 1878-79 was the first year of the operation of the License Tax Act. It had been introduced into the North-Western Provinces twelve months before. Sir John Strachey had always been an advocate of direct taxation ; one of his first acts as Finance Minister was to introduce this impost into the North-Western Provinces. After it had been in operation in those provinces for one year,it was extended to the whole of India. The real object of this scheme was to pave the way for the remission of the import duties. We need not discuss here how the scheme was carried out in practice, and how the so-called famine insurance fund ceased to exist almost as soon as it was created. This Act imposed a duty on all trades, dealings, and industries, the profits of which were not less than Rs. 100 a year. It is impossible to form an adequate conception of the hardship and oppression which the working of this Act inflicted on the poorer classes of traders and artisans. In no other province had the minimum taxable income been fixed so low as Rs. 100. The minimum taxable income was, however, raised, in 1879-80, to Rs. 250, and in the following year was further raised to Rs. 500. This measure, which exempted from taxation 66,567 of the poorest class of assessees, and relieved from harassment a still larger number of persons with incomes slightly below the former minimum, did much to allay the discontent with which the tax was, as a direct tax, necessarily received. The Act of 1880 further assimilated the law for Calcutta and the districts in the interior ; absolved the assessees from the liability to take out more than one license, however many places of business they might have; exempted municipal bodies from the performance of license tax work; granted the right of reference to the Commissioner by a person aggrieved by the order of the Collector in cases of objection—appeal ; and imposed the obligation on the license tax authorities to serve notices on assessees of all classes. The alteration in the minimum taxable income necessitated a complete revision of the assessment lists of the lowest class ; and as the assessments in the higher grades also required careful scrutiny, a complete assessment of the province was undertaken in 1880. This assessment has formed the basis of the administration of the tax since then, though the lists for each district have of course been carefully revised each year. In the first few years of the administration of the tax, the Bengal Government admits, the collections were disproportionately small compared with the gross demand, the percentages being 44·0 in 1878-79, 61·7 in 1879-80, and 55·4 in 1880-81. This result could scarcely have been avoided in the initiation of so large and difficult an undertaking without a specially trained staff,and without the assitance of the permanent revenue establishments which is said to have done so much to facilitate the work in the North-Western Provinces and other temporarily-settled provinces. The Lieutenant-Governor is mistaken in thinking that in the North-Western Provinces the administration of the tax was more satisfactory than in Bengal. The real working of the impost in the United Provinces was mercilessly exposed by Mr. Allan Hume, when, as Junior Member of the Allahabad Board of Revenue, he was charged with the administration of Assessed Taxes. In the annual administration report for 1879-80, he proved to demonstration that it is altogether impossible to assess a direct impost like the license tax with any thing like fairness. That document which we noticed fully in these columns, at the time of its appearance six years ago, should be carefully studied by all persons who advocate direct taxation in India. And the public has not yet forgotten Mr. John Inglis's bold and fearless exposure of the practical working of the Income tax in the North-Western Provinces in his place in the Legislative Council, in Lord Mayo's time. The simple truth is that direct taxation in any shape is utterly unsuited to the condition of India. Sir Ashley Eden, in reviewing the license tax administration report in Bengal for 1880-81, observed :—"The whole of the proceedings connected with the working of the License Tax even in Calcutta, show how impossible it is to effect proper assessment and collection of a direct tax like the License Tax. The proper machinery for the honest and conscientious working of such a tax cannot be secured in this country and it is for this reason that the Lieutenant-Governor has always deprecated direct taxation, where indirect taxation could be substituted." This is the deliberate opinion of a statesman who is thoroghly acquainted with the actual state of things existing in the country. A wild theorist and pedantic doctrinaire like Sir John Strachey might consider direct taxation ; as the best means of raising revenue in this country, but this view is emphatically contradicted by the experience of every man of common sense, who does not wilfully shut his eyes to hard and stern facts. Gradually the proportion which the amount collected bore to the gross demand became more satisfactory. It is a common remark that Bengal pays much less in proportion to its population than the other provinces of India. This impression is not borne out by the facts. In 1884-85 every hundred persons in Bengal paid Rs. 2·15 in the shape of license tax, while an equal number of persons paid Rs, 2·42 in the Central Provinces, Rs. 2·53 in the Punjab, Rs. 2·75 in the North-Western Provinces, Rs. 1·38 in Madras, and Rs. 7 63 in Bombay. Bengal ranks lower than might have been expected; but an inspection of these figures points to the conclusion that it is the conditions of Bombay, rather than those of Bengal, that are exceptional.

In 1885-86 out of a total number of 248,134 villages in the province, 26,735 were found to contain assessees, against 26,619 in the preceding year. Only 1,810 villages are said to have been specially visited by officers of the regular executive staff against 2,677 in 1884-85 ; but as district and subdivisional officers frequently keep no record of the number of villages in which enquiries are made during their cold weather tours, these figures show only a part of the work done. After exclusion of double entries, and allowance for revision of the lists by Collectors, the number of persons assessed was 75,396. Of these, 5,215 were exempted on objection and 299 on appeal, leaving 69,882 persons on the list of assessees on the 30th June as compared with 70,259 in 1884-85. The population of Bengal being 69½ millions, one person in every 951 paid the tax, and the average incidence was Re. 1 to every 46 persons. The incidence was highest in Calcutta and lowest in Singbhoom. The number of objections lodged was 18,678, or 24·7 per cent of the gross number of assessments made, the corresponding percentage in 1884-85 being 25·4. In 11,258 cases the original assessments were upheld ; in 2,204 they were modified by the transfer of the objector to a lower class ; and in 5,215 cases the assessments were cancelled. These results are most disappointing in the eighth year of administration of the tax. His Honor would not have expressed such an opinion if he had remembered that a direct tax cannot be assessed with any thing like fairness in India. We are free to confess that the License tax within the circumscribed limits within which it worked has not produced any wholesale mischief. This, however, cannot be predicated of the Income Tax, which has been in operation since the commencement of the current financial year.

The number of appeals pending on the 30th June was 9 against 69 in the previous year. The number of applications to the Commissioner, out side Calcutta under section 21 of the Act was 79, of which 64 were rejected, 6 were granted in part, 7 were cancelled, and 2 were pending at the close of the year. There was again a falling off in the net collections, which the Board ascribe to the general depression in trade and to revision of original assessments. The net receipts from the tax fell off in 22 districts,and increased in the remainder. The decrease in Maldah is ascribed to the reduced circumstances of the assessees, brought about by the floods of last year, following upon a succession of bad harvests. The general depression of trade, aggravated more or less by local circumstances, is alleged as the cause of the decrease in Beerbhoom, Hooghly and Dacca; while the falling off in Monghyr is attributed to faulty assessment. In Mozufferpore the failure of some banking firms, coupled with destructive fires, and scanty harvests, affected for the worse the economic condition of the people, and many petty dealers and money-lenders closed their business. In Chumparun, Dinagepore, Gya, and Nuddea the increase is due to revision of assessments.

It remains to notice the attitude of the people towards the license tax. Since the amendment of the law in 1880, which exempted from liability all incomes less than Rs. 500 per annum, the tax has affected a comparatively small fraction of the people.Those who had to pay it had little difficulty after the first year in ascertaining the extent of their legal liability,and came to look upon it as an inseparable item of expenditure, on account of their trade or business. The great mass of the people, however, felt no concern about it, and probably were not aware even of its existence. Pratically such discontent as existed was confined to the sufferers from individual instances of carelessness or misconduct on the part of the assessing or collecting staff, and to districts where the minds of the people had been disturbed by the fluctuations in the policy pursued by the officers in charge of the administration. The experience acquired by the assessing agency enabled them to make fairer valuations than in other years, while the supervision of the superior officers tended greatly to reduce the evils connected with the assessment and realization of a direct tax.

THE *INDIAN DAILY NEWS* AND OURSELVES.

OUR contemporary of the *Indian Daily News* has administered to us a gentle rebuke for our angry tone in our reply to certain remarks of the *Englishman* and on certain other matters. We accept it in the same good feeling with which it has been administered. It has always been our endeavour to avoid angry feeling and harsh language, and we have often paid very dearly for it. During the Ilbert Bill days, when the Defence Association and the Anglo Indian Press, not excepting the *Indian Daily News*, most outragously vilified our countrymen, and Town Hall orators spared not even the sanctity of our zenana; when Atkins & Co. placarded the streets of the chief towns of England with pictorial illustrations of the enormities of our race; when the dictionary of billingsgate was hurled on our heads like a lava stream from a burning volcano; when all that is sacred and noble and revered amongst us was dragged through the mire in mischievous and malicious rancour, we kept our peace and said not a word in reply. We knew that at such a time we would only help the fire of race-antagonism by casting dry faggots thereon. And what was the result? We failed to satisfy the malcontents, while our countrymen accused us of dereliction of duty. Some of our constituents left us, and one of our contemporaries went the length of proposing to Boycott us. We do not, however, regret the policy we then followed, and are prepared to follow it again when circumstances arise. But a chronic state of nagging, in season and out of season, a habitual system of abuse utterly uncalled for and most repulsive such as the *Pioneer* always follows,and the *Englishman* of late has adopted, is beyond human endurance True, our flesh is not nurtured with beef, nor our blood vivified with whisky, but no flesh and blood can stand unintermitting constant revilings. Our contemporary knows well that even the meanest insect will turn when trodden upon, and he will, though his Anglo-Indian contemporaries may not, admit that we are endowed with more nerves than insects. Under these circumstances, our good brother would have done well if he had tried to chide his rampant countrymen from evil speaking and doing injury to weak, helpless, subject people, instead of lecturing us to be patient under suffering. We appeal to him to say who was in the wrong, the *Englishman* for hurling at us some exploded libels of one inebriated by his fondness for antitheses, but who himself believed not a word of what he wrote, or we for resenting it? To us the lecture seems very much like denouncing for cruelty the little tomtit which pecks at truant school boys who go to rob her nest. But abuse apart, the question of representation in the Municipal Corporation of Calcutta, is a matter of grave importance and the attempt now being made to deprive the people of their right is disgraceful; and we would be wanting in our duty to our fellow-citizens whose representatives we profess to be, if we did not try our utmost to prevent it. Our good natured contemporary is himself a defaulter in this respect. In his issue of the 22nd instant, he reproduces all the exploded principles of representation which alone can help to give his countrymen —a mere handful—complete ascendency over the half-million of the natives of Calcutta. This may be necessary for securing the good-will of his constituents; but he will not likely deny that it is unjust. It is obvious that he had not read our article on 'citizenship' in our issue of the 20th when he wrote it, or he would not have reproduced the argument about want of homogeneity which we so fully exposed. Tiresome speeches may be unpleasant, but surely our friend has not forgotten that there was a time when he and his friend, the late Mr. Roberts, spoke more frequently and at much greater length at municipal meetings than any native of the day. He had then to fight against a strong official majority which he wanted, very justly and very properly to put down. His war with the chief of the day was carried to his editorial columns, and it culminated—well—in the celebrated case of Hogg *vs.* Wilson. He was the foremost too in fighting for the adoption of the principle of election, pure and simple. And it strikes us as painful that now, simply because his party has coalesced with the official majority,he should cast his principles to the wind, and advocate the practical exclusion of the natives. He says that he has changed his opinion, because he has found by experience that the natives are useless. He has every right to the change, but we firmly believe that his experience has been an unfortunate one. We could easily demonstrate this, if he wanted, but in that case then we shall have to say many things which he and his will feel very unpleasant. We shall now only say that the nonofficial Europeans have not during the last twenty years originated any thing in the way of improvement to which the Bengalis cannot lay an equal claim.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

THE Viceroy is said to be in favour of the Queen's Jubilee being celebrated in Calcutta and throughout India in the cold season. The probable date will be either the 9th or 16th of February. The delay is only formal as the decision must have been pre-determined. The gods will never grace the plains in June and they must hurry through the business during their short sojourn there and all that their condescension will extend to will be to put off the celebration to as distant a date of the "season" as possible. It is no good our protesting against the enormity of disturbing the proper date if they are bent on it and we must accept their decision, we suppose, with as good a grace as we can comand. Her Majesty is personally supposed to be opposed to the idea of the Jubilee being celebrated at any but the correct time, and that fact itself ought to have brought the Indian Jubilists to their senses.

THE delegates to the National Congress are fast arriving in Calcutta. The opening meeting takes place this afternoon at 3 P.M. at the Town Hall, where the Reception Committee invite the public to attend and meet the delegates. At 9-30, there will be held a large evening party at the same place in honor of the delegates and for introducing them to each other. The business-meetings of the Congress where mature and lengthy deliberations will be held will take place at the British Indian Association Rooms on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday; on one of these days the Congress will meet in the morning, as Babu Mahesh Chunder Chowdhery, the well-known Pleader of the High Court, entertains the delegates by a river excursion in a steamer. The meetings on the other days will sit from 11-30P. M. to 4 P. M. The India Club gives them an evening party on the 28th instant, and there is a likelihood of circus and theatrical entertainments and athletic sports, in the shape of cricket matches &c. by our boys being organised. On Thursday—the last day of the Congress—His Excellency the Viceroy will graciously entertain the delegates at an evening party at the Government House.

THE triumph of Mr. Bradford Leslie's engineering skill was achieved on Monday last. The last girder of the great Hooghly bridge that is to connect the E. I. Railway and the E. B. State Railway systems was successfully placed in position from the Naihatty side of the river in the presence of a distinguished company from Calcutta, including His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor. It is the only 'cantilever' bridge on this side of India, the only other large bridge of the same description being the one that is to span the Indus at Sukkar. It consists of three spans, the entire length being 1200 feet. The girder of the central span measures 320 feet, the shore-spans, being each 420 feet long. Mr. Bradford Leslie, the designer and architect, was unfortunately ill and away at Colombo. A telegram was despatched to him congratulating him on the successful completion of his great undertaking. The new bridge will be of great commercial value, and, by providing a thorough and uninterrupted traffic, will give anunprecedented impetus to the trade of Eastern Bengal.

WE take the following Synopsis of the first doings of the Public Service Commission at Lahore from the *Civil and Military Gazette*. The *Gazette* says:—"The Public Service Commission met on the 17th instant at 10-30 A.M., and with an interval for lunch, continued to sit till after 5 P. M. Messrs. R. T. Burney, C. S., Mr. Macworth Young, C. S., Mr. Bridges Lee, Barrister-at-law, Sirdar Gurdial Singh, a Statutory Civilian, and Mr. F. C. Channing, C. S., were examined. The Commission again met on the 13th, at 10-30. A private meeting was first held to consider questions of procedure and to formulate the issues for inquiry in a brief and definite form, so as to avoid waste of time in examining candidates. These issues will be published as soon as possible. The sitting terminated at 5-15 P. M., Mr. Elsmie, C. S., Commissioner of Lahore; Mr. Roe, Divisional Judge; Sirdar Dyal Singh, Majethia; Colonel Holroyd, and Mr. J. A. E. Miller, were examined. The two first-named are members of the Civil Service. Sirdar Dyal Singh is a man of high Sikh family, and of wealth and position, and is proprietor of the *Tribune*. Mr. Miller represented the Uncovenanted Service, so far as those were concerned, who had been promoted to the Covenanted grades.

The following witnesses have also been examined:—"Colonel Gordon Young, Commissioner of Jullundhur; Dr. Rahim Khan, Khan Bahadur; Sirdar Charat Sing Mulraj, M.A., Extra Assistant Commissioner; and Munshi Mohurram Ali Chistie." "Babu Kally Prosunno Roy, and Mr. Lall Chand, both Pleaders of the Chief Court; Mr. Sime, of the Educational Department, and Private Tutor to the Rajah of Puttialla; Mahammed-ud-Din, Extra Assistant Commissioner; and Enam Ali, delegate from the Anjuman-i-Islamya."

MR. SHUTTLEWORTH, of Rungpore, has had his reward or punishment call it what you will. From Rungpore he has been transferred to the Chittagong Hill Tracts. Mr. Newbury is wisely on leave and cannot therefore be touched supposing the Government were inclined so to do. Something, however, is always better than nothing.

A GOVERNMENT notification has been sent to us informing the public that the Public Service Commission will be glad to receive the opinions of any Association or Society or of any gentlemen, official or non-official, "on the subject set-forth in the Resolution of the Government of India in the Home Department No. 34-1573-80 dated the 4th October last, *viz* the admission of Natives of India to the various branches of the public service connected with the Civil Administration of this country." It may not be in the power of the Commission to invite gentlemen individually to appear before it and give their evidence. But it may very well take up the suggestion thrown out by the Indian Association and invite the leading men to do so and ask the public bodies to depute delegates to represent their views before the Commission.

WE are glad to see that Dr. Mahendralal Sircar's Science Association, though not getting quite that amount of public support which its importance and usefulness well entitle it to, is not altogether neglected. Mr. George Yule, our popular retiring Sheriff, has made it a present of Rs. 500. It is gratifying to note that Indian institutions of this character should be cordially supported by European gentlemen, and we hope to see Mr. Yule's good example largely followed by his fellow-countrymen. Mr. Yule has marked the close of his tenure of the shrievalty by making several other donations to the City, Ripon and other colleges.

THOUGH tardy and long in the coming, Justice has come at last. The reader remembers the case of Boykontho Dome, the husband of Khanto Domni against one Pinches an Assam Planter. Khanto laid a charge of rape against Pinches. Her story was that, about a fortnight previous to the date of her complaint, she had been taken away by Mr. Pinches while she was working in his garden and outraged. She called three women as witnesses who, she said, had seen Mr. Pinches take her away. The petitioner, Boyconto, who evidently did not believe the story of rape, preferred a charge of adultery against Mr. Pinches. In his statement, he alleged that he had heard from his wife what had taken place, and that she charged Mr. Pinches with having outraged her. The charge of rape was investigated by Mr. Arbuthnot, the Assistant Commissioner at Joreha', who dismissed it. Mr. Pinches then applied for sanction to prosecute the woman, and when the case against the woman was being investigated by the Deputy Commissioner, the husband who happened to be in court, was put into the dock, and sanction was obtained to prosecute him for having preferred a false charge of rape, which he never did. The husband's complaint, which was one of adultery, had, as a matter of fact, never been investigated. All the evidence was gone into on that day, and a formal charge was drawn up against the accused by the Magistrate for having preferred a false charge of rape. The man was sentenced that very day to suffer three years' rigorous imprisonment and the woman sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment. The sentence of Boykantho was reduced to two years' rigorous imprisonment on appeal.

The question which the Court really had to decide was, was there any evidence that the petitioner had made the charge of adultery, knowing it to be false. That charge had never been tried, and there was, therefore, no evidence whatever that the husband had made the charge knowing it to be false. The court below, as well as the High Court were in absolute ignorance of the truth or otherwise of that charge. That being so, the conviction rested on no evidence whatever, and was therefore set aside. If Boykontho were a wealthy and influential man, with friends and interest to back his cause, it would have been Pinche's turn to stand a trial for false and malicious prosecution. But Boykontha is but a poor, helpless, and wretched Assam cooly, and his grievances are to be unredressed.

HIS Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has sanctioned the payment to the Calcutta Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, of the whole amount (instead of a half hitherto received) of the fines realised in the Calcutta and Suburban Police Courts in cases instituted by its agents. This is supposed to be good use of the money in as much as it is likely to give an impetus to the work of the Society, which will have everything to gain and nothing to lose by an increase of the number of convictions. We have our doubts, however, as to the soundness of this view of the question. Augmented resources are no doubt imperatively necessary for efficient work. But there is a tinge of immoral degeneracy in a practice which makes your gains proportionate to the work you do, particularly when the work consists in obtaining as many criminal convictions as you can, the result of which is the imposition of fines the whole of which will go to your pocket for your special behoof. The agents of the Society are but men, and one must excuse their weakness if they are bent upon increasing, if possible, the number of convictions under this favourable state of circumstances. If the Society is short of funds and if the Government be really anxious to help it out of its difficulties, the best course it could follow would be to augment its regular grant and credit the amounts realised by fines to itself. The objectionable features of the arrangement would thus be obviated without marring the efficiency of the working of the Society.

THE Viceroy's levee on Monday last, was a very crowded one. The arrangements, however, are pronounced to have been excellent, and everything passed off without a hitch.

THE Calcutta Jute-business has of late been showing a decided tendency down-wards. There was an abnormal glut in the market, and the demand has, for some time past, been far from proportionate. Under unfavourable circumstances like these, the Calcutta Jute Manufacturers' Association has acted wisely in coming to the decision that they will work only nine days a fortnight for a twelve months from the 15th of February next, say four days one week and five days the next. We, however, regret to hear that there are certain black sheep in the fold, who will not join the short work movement. They are anxious, it seems, to steal a march on their wiser brethren, but will have to suffer in business in the long run.

NAWAB SIR ABDUL GUNNY MEAH, K. C. S. I., of Dacca, and his son, Nawab Assanullah Khan, arrived at Calcutta on Monday last with their family, including Nawab Khaja Solimullah, and a large retinue.

THE Convocation of the University of Calcutta for conferring degrees on the successful candidates will take place on the 8th January next. Both His Excellency the Chancellor and the newly appointed Vice-Chancellor are expected to speak. The attendance of the year is anticipated to be large and, we trust, the University authorities will leave nothing undone to avoid the execrable arrangements which disgraced the last year's convocation. They are thoroughly whitewashing their house up, and they have been doing some thing of late to mend their household matters a little. Let their housewife's instinct, therefore, be equal to the occasion of receiving the distinguished Chancellor.

A SUB-COMMITTEE of the Public Service Commission has been formed of the following Gentlemen:—"Mr. Quinton, Mr. Stewart, and Syud Ahmed, who left for Allahabad in order to prepare against the coming of the main body of the Commission who probably will leave Lahore to-day or to-morrow." What will the Sub-Committee be for?

WE are glad to hear that Dr. P. K. Roy has been appointed Registrar of the Calcutta University. This is the first time that an Indian gentleman has got the appointment.

APROPOS of our remarks on the interest taken by European Members in the work of the Calcutta Corporation and the furious tirade of our contemporary of the *Englishman*, we reproduce the following from the *Pioneer*, a hostile witness:

"Many members of the Commission seem to regard the duty of personally assisting in its deliberations as one which they are at liberty to neglect as often as convenience or inclination prompts; or, in some instances, altogether to ignore. Mr. Atkinson begins the list with a total of 71 invitations and 33 attendances; Mr. Gasper beats this with 35 invitations and 1 attendance; but even he is outdone by Messrs. McArthur, Duff Bruce and others, who responded in no single instance to 35 invitations. There is, in fact, a select party of members who from the beginning of the year to the end never put in an appearance. The omissions to attend are all the more serious, because, in many cases, the meetings were those of the Town Council, a sort of Select Committee of the Commission, which initiates its policy and dictates its action. Mr. Atkinson, for instance, was invited to 35 meetings of the Town Council, but was an absentee on 32 of these occasions: Mr. Gasper responded only to 35 invitations. Mr. McArthur and Mr. Duff Bruce improved on this with 35 invitations and no attendance; a feat which was quite or nearly equalled by several other members of the Town Council. How can any public body be expected to do well, whose leading members show so superb an indifference to the duties of their position?"

The *Pioneer* as in duty bound, accounts for this state of things by saying "the answer, of course, is that Municipal discussions, under Mr. Harrison's presidency, are more than flesh and blood can bear, and that busy men have better employment for their time than to sit for hours listening to the rhetorical execrations of excited Babudom." But the argument does not hold water. The *Pi*, admits that the Town Council meetings are of the vestry Committee meeting type where even perverse Babudom cannot indulge in "rhetorical execrations," and the alleged cause being absent no necessary effect can fellow. The fact is that the Europeans want the Corporation to be placed entirely under their domination, with a fee or honorarium for each of them, and so long this is not done there will be the usual hue and cry.

MR. HERBERT GLADSTONE has arrived in Calcutta. We heartily welcome him both in deference to his own worth and to that of his grand old father.

MR. ELLIOT is appointed, on the dissolution of the Finance Committee, the "Finance Commissioner" to the Government of India for giving the finishing touch to the Committee's report. Mr. Justice Cunningham will be associated with him and he will be assisted by Colonel Filgate, Mr. Bliss, and Mr. Jacob. Where has then there been a dissolution pray?

THE new Legislative Council of the North-Western Provinces will meet for the first time on the 8th of January.

DR. W. W. HUNTER presided on Friday last, at the distribution of the prizes to the successful students of the Bangabasi School. The institution combines in its curriculum both general and agricultural subjects and has on its staff two of our successful Cirencester agricultural scholars. Sir Edward Buck of the Agricultural Department was also present.

BABUS OBHOY CHUNDER DAS, Hem Chunder Kar, and several other Deputy Magistrates have been granted an extension of service by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor. A correspondent hears that Babu Bunkim Chunder Chatterji will soon retire from the service along with several others.

IT is the Queen's desire that all her family should be in England during the Jubilee celebration next year, so the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, and Prince George of Wales are going home from Malta at the end of May for a few weeks, and the Duke and Duchess of Connaught are to return from Bombay for a couple of months.

THERE was a complaint at Bombay that the Public Service Commission should visit the city about the time that its leading men should be away at Calcutta to attend the Congress and be unable to give their evidence before the Commission. There need not, we think, be any difficulty on that score, as the delegates will all return in time to appear before the Commission. They can, besides, send on their written answers to the Commission and though it may be impossible to deal with the volumious questions issued by the Commission in the Congress, they can well discuss, as they will, the broad general principles and their opinions will thus have the advantage of having, as it were, the stamp of the nation's verdict.

NAWAB ABDUL LATIF'S party has, as a matter of course, followed Mr. Amir Ali's suit in refusing to join the Congress. We do not wonder at it, however sorry we may be for their adopting this unwise course. Some of the Calcutta Mahomedans have reasons of their own for playing the "role of" loyalists as against Hindoo 'disaffection and they are very much encouraged in their foolish game when men like Sir William Gregory, the late Governor of Ceylon, rush to the pages of influential magazines like the *Nineteenth Century* to set Hindoos and Mahomedans by the ear and try to ruin one with the aid of the other. The Nawab Saheb, however, has the good sense to say by way of prelude that his Society "are fully convinced that the aim of the forthcoming Congress is to promote measures which, it is considered, will tend to the amelioration of the condition of the people of India; and they would greatly regret to do anything which would have even the appearance of withholding, from such a worthy object, any support which their co-operation might give." That, however, is only his profession, for he deems it fit to act otherwise. Regretting as we do, the mistaken position taken up by the Mahomedans, Centralites, and Literaturists, we have this consolation that all Mahomedan are not so disposed. Many of them have sent influential and representative delegates, the insiduous suggestions of the *Englishman* and the *Pioneer* notwithstanding.

WE have elsewhere stated that the Nizam's troops are to be "reorganised," as a result of the Vice-regal visit. We notice the same has been the case with the Gawekwar. His Highness' irregular cavalry, numbering 3,000 men are, according to the *Times of India*, to be cut down to about 1,600 efficient men, and a considerable portion of the cavalry have been converted into simple watchmen or civil guards.

TELEGRAMS.

THE *Temps* publishes a letter, received from Aden, in which the writer charges the English Agents on the Somali Coasts with having incited the massacre of the Captain and seven of the crew of the French war vessel *Pengouin* at Ambadu, by alleging that the French had designs of annexing the country belonging to the Somali natives.

A SHARP action took place on the 21st instant near Myingyan. Colonel Woodward, of the Munster Fusileers, attacked Moung Thouk Khan and carried the position after fifteen minutes' fighting. Six Europeans were wounded and one was killed. Fifty insurgents were killed and many of them wounded.

HLA Oo has opened negotiations for surrender. Mr. Colquhoun has been instructed to promise him his life.

THE ruby mines column has advanced within a short distance of the mines without encountering further opposition of any moment. The head men have appeared and expressed friendship.

THE plan of the campaign which has been formulated by the Parnellites against the payment of rents in Ireland has been proclaimed an illegal conspiracy by the Government, and the participators in it are warned that they render themselves liable to prosecution, and that any money collected will be seized by the authorities. The proceedings against Messrs. Dillon, O' Brien, Harris, and Sheehy have been abandoned at Loughrea, and the defendants will appear at Dublin for trial in company with Messrs. Redmond and Crilly, the whole of them charged with conspiracy.

MR. PARNELL has notified that he reserves his opinion on the plan of the campaign against the payment of rents, of which he has been in ignorance, until he has conferred with its promoters and states that he is going to Ireland for that purpose. Various meetings of tenants were held at which Nationalist members urged upon their hearers to persevere in their plan of the non-payment of rents to landlords.

ADVICES received from Ireland state that the collection of the rents which have been withheld for the purpose of the fund in conformity with the Nationalist plan of campaign is still being carried out, though secretly.

AN agreement has been concluded between the Suez Canal Company and the Egyptian Government, whereby the width of the Canal from Port Said to the Bitter Lakes is to be increased to forty-four metres, and thence to Suez to sixty-five metres.

MR. BOURKE, in reply to the address of welcome from the Madras Mahajana Sabha said that, if any member of the Sabha or any other gentlemen should at any time wish to see him on any matter of public interest, he should be very glad to receive them. In reply to a similar address from the Triplicane Literary Society, he said "it will always be my intention carefully to note the opinions of those whose learning, ability, wisdom, and moderation in the discussion of public affairs render them entitled to the name of true friends of the people of India."

THE Colin Campbell divorce case has been concluded, the trial having lasted eighteen days. The verdict is that the charges are mutually unproved, and both petitions are dismissed.

COUNT Herbert Bismarck has strongly advised the Bulgarians to accept the candidacy of Prince Nicholas of Mingrelia for the Bulgarian throne.

THE candidacy of Prince Ferdinand of Saxe-Coburg Gotha has been dropped. Russia still insists upon the acceptance of Prince Nicholas of Mingrelia.

THE *Morning Post*, in an apparently inspired article, warns Turkey against the continuance of her Russophile and anti-English policy. England cannot permit the Sultan, in the presence of a serious situation in the east of Europe, to continue a double policy. England has given Turkey ample proof of her friendship, and notably in Egypt. The hesitation of Turkey at the present moment will compel England to counteract the Russian threats by resolutions and measures which will speedily convince the Porte of the danger of its policy.

NUMEROUS vague rumours are current in regard to the armaments of Russia and Austria; who, it is stated, are preparing to go to war in the spring.

THE Bulgarian Deputation have gone to Paris.

ON THE USE OF TAR.

Hitherto Tar has been administered in various forms, but drawbacks have existed, the principle being a repugnant flavour, and the great difficulty in accurately proportioning doses.

Mr. E. GUYOT a Chemist, has rendered signal service by producing a consentrated solution of tar called "GUYOT'S TAR SOLUTION," which renders the use of this justly valued medicament extremely simple.

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WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the following books and pamphlets:

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2. Our Land Laws of the Past, by the Right Hon. W. E. Baxter M. P.
3. Free Trade and English Commerce, by Augustus Mongredien.
4. An Esay on the Transfer of Land By Registration, by Sir Robert Torrens K.C.M.G.
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Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*December 22, 1886.*

GENERAL.—Babu Juggobundhu Bhuttacharji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Midnapore, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4 of Act VII (B C) 1880 in that district, *vice* Babu Jodu Nath Bose, on leave.

Babu Bhairub Nath Palit, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Burdwan, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4 of Act VII (B C) of 1880 in that district.

Babu Khetter Mohun Mitter, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Patna, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under section 4 of Act VII (B C) of 1880 in that district.

Babu Rajendra Nath Ghose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajshahye, is transferred to the sudder station of the District of Manbhum.

Babu Dino Nath Dey, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Kurigram, Rungpore, is transferred to the sudder station of that district.

Mr F C Harrison, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Baraset, 24-Pergunnahs, is transferred to Durbhunga, and is appointed to have charge of the Tajpore Sub-Division, of that district.

Mr T E Coxhead, Magistrate and Collector, Burdwan, is appointed to act until further orders, in the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 20th October 1886.

Babu Khetter Gopal Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collecter, Furridpore, is allowed leave for three months under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 15th proximo.

Babu Bissessar Bannerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is transferred to Cuttack. His services are placed at the disposal of the Board of Revenue for survey work in the Government estate of Angul, in the Tributary Mohals of Cuttack in Orissa.

Babu Nobin Krishna Benerji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sathkira, Khulna, is allowed leave for two months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Babu Chunder Bhusun Chuckerbutty, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nowada, Gya, is transferred to Khulna, and is appointed to have charge of the Satkhira Sub-Division of that district during the absence, on leave of Babu Nobin Krishna Banerjee, or until further orders.

Babu Bhai Baz Sinha, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector Purneah, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

This cancels the order of the 24th February last granting Babu Bhai Baz Sinha privilege leave for two months and six days.

In modification of the order dated the 30th November last, Babu Chaku Lal Sirker is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the third grade for employment under the Board of Revenue.

Mr. A. B. Barnard, Temporary Additional Deputy Commissioner Police, Calcutta, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the firstgrade of Assistant Superintendents of Police, with effect from the 1st November 1886.

Mr. A. Shottloworth, Officiating. Assistant Superintendent of Police, Rungpore, is transerred to the Chittagong Hil Tracts District.

Mr A R G Hampton is appointed to act, until further orders, as an Assistant Superintendent of Police.

Mr H M Reily. District Superintendent of Police, Howrah, is allowed furlough for two years, under section 50, Chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 14th January 1887.

Legislative—Mr Gorden Leith, Barrister-at-Law, is appointed to be Assistant Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the Legislative Department, substantive *pro tempere*, with effect from the 23rd ultimo *vice* Mr C H Reily.

Education—Mr J Wood-Mason is appointed substantive *pro tempere* to be Professor of Comparative Anatomy in the Medical college, calcutta, with effect from the 6th June 1886.

Babu Mukunda Chunder Vidyabagish, Head Master of the Balasore Zillah School, is appointed to be Secretary to the District School committee of that district, *vice* Baboo Golock Chunder Chakravarti, transferred.

Medical—Assistant Surgeon Mutty Lal Mukerji was in medical charge of the civil Station of Sarun from the forenoon of the 7th November to the afternoon of the 4th December 1886.

Assistant Surgeon Brojo Nath Chowdhry was in medical charge of the civil station of Hughly from the afternoon of the 21st October to the afternoon of the 15th November 1886.

Babu Parbutty Churn Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Darjiling, is vested with powers under section 110 of the code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1882.

Babu Jogesh Chunder Mitter, Subordinate Judge and Judge of the court of Small Causes. Bhangulpore is allowed leave for one month under section 73, rule 2 of the Civil Leave code with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Adesmitorents.

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